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THE SOVIETS HAVE BEGUN TO CONSTRUCT A POSSIBLE NEW NAVAL BASE AT GUBA DALGAYA (69-10N 034-57E) ABOUT 42 NM EAST-NORTHEAST OF MURMANSK.

THE BASE WAS COMPLETELY UNDEVELOPED WHEN SEEN ON PHOTOGRAPHY IN MID-1967. IN SPTEMBER 1968 ONE BARRACKS BUILDING WAS NOTED. IN OCTOBER 1970, A LONG SHALLOW-DRAFT PIER AND THE LAST OF SOME 15. BARRACKS AND SUPPORT BUILDINGS WERE NEARING COMPLETION. A NEW ROAD WAS BEING BUILT FROM THESE FACILITIES INTO A STEEP HILL TOWARD THE EASTERN SIDE OF THE BAY. A POSSIBLE FOUNDATION FOR A SECOND PIER IS LOCATED ON THE EAST SIDE OF THE BAY AT THE EDGE OF DEEP WATER.

GUBA DALGAYA IS SIMILAR IN A NUMBER OF WAYS TO THE LAST SUBMARINE BASE BUILT IN THE USSR -- BUKHTA BECHEVINSKAYA (53-16N 159-46E) NEAR PETROPAVLOVSK. THE FIRST FACILITIES AT BECHEVINSKAYA CONSISTED OF AN ADVANCED CONSTRUCTION SITE AND A SHALLOW-WATER PIER, AS IS THE CASE WITH GUBA DALGAYA.

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